



Legislative Committee Meeting

Tuesday, June 20, 2024

11:30am – 1:00pm

ACEC Office, 13th Floor Wells Fargo Building + Virtual Meeting

Purpose

ACEC/NC is the sole organization in North Carolina that represents the business interests of the engineering industry in our state. A key component of ACEC/NC's mission is to "promote the business interests of engineering companies by providing *legislative advocacy*". We work on behalf our member organizations to support and promote issues that are of importance to them and the engineering industry, both on the state and federal level.

Meeting Notes

The notes below represent the general discussion, information and resulting action items:

1. Welcome/Review/Approve Meeting Minutes

- Seth Poole, Interim Legislative Committee Vice Chair, called the meeting to order. He reiterated the purpose of the ACEC/NC Legislative Committee.
- Seth asked if attendees had any additions or modifications to the agenda. No comments were provided.
- Claire asked the group if anyone had comments on the Meeting Notes from April 16. No comments were provided. Action Items from the previous meeting were discussed.

2. STATE Legislative/Regulatory Updates/Discussion

- Claire highlighted the justification for skipping Legislative Day this year.
- Seth gave an update on the Duke Energy easement issue and how it is being worked out. Open parcels were paused, but there is little clarity on renegotiated easements.
- Seth opened the ACEC/NC Legislative Tracker – Pending Legislation is: [Legislative Tracker - ACEC of North Carolina \(acecnc.org\)](#)
 - HB 198 got the votes in the General Assembly but was vetoed by the governor. ACEC/NC is determining how we can engage on this issue.
 - Statewide projects in the STIP will likely have a shortfall in the programming based on inflationary assumptions. The Division needs report will be published in December. ACEC/NC is collaborating with NCDOT leadership.

3. FEDERAL Legislative/Regulatory Updates/Discussion

- Joe Angell provided an update:
 - Based on his recent trip to Washington DC, there is more money than staff to authorize.
 - There is an Executive Order over \$35M must use project labor agreements, but in North Carolina there is not enough union labor to execute. The Army Corp of Engineering will be hit hard with this provision.



- In North Carolina, there is more than \$4 Billion in IIJA dollars that has still not been executed. ACEC/NC Building and Infrastructure Committee is working on who is holding up these funds and who has authorization.
- Tara provided an update on the National R&D legislation, which is likely not going to move forward in the near-term as written.

4. LOCAL Legislative/Regulatory Updates/Discussion

- No new business.

5. PAC Updates Fundraising

- The National PAC \$3,200 vs. a \$35,616 goal. The Sporting Clay Fundraiser was on 5/31 and it was a successful fundraiser.
- The upcoming fundraising event is the Golf Tournament on 6/24 and the Summer Conference Auction in August.

6. STRATEGIC PLAN

- Claire provided an overview of the surveying effort that occurred in February 2024 to solicit feedback from member firms. Based on this feedback, the Legislative Committee developed eight strategic priorities.
- Seth presented more details on the strategy for Model-Based Design. The next step will be to have a conference call with member firms to advance the conversation regarding Model-Based Design.
- Tara emphasized that as we seek feedback, we need to be specific about the type of feedback required to shape the conversation. As part of the long session, E-Signature will be a focus area.

7. ACEC/NC & NCDOT Joint Conference

- Rather than hosting a Legislative Panel like in years past, we have allocated our time to a session that was submitted later. Chris Peoples will present on Public Private Partnerships.

8. Future Meeting Dates

- Claire closed the meeting by saying the next Legislative Committee meeting will be on September 10 in Raleigh at the ACEC/NC office or virtual.

Action Items

Topic	Action	Point Person	Deadline
ORD	Schedule “large call” to engage two people in each member firm	Seth Poole	7/12
State Construction	Determining our involvement in the State Construction Conference	Joe Angell	8/15